

Rev A. A. Phelps

Boston

^{appeal} ~~them~~ I feel safe in asserting that \$50 dollars less than
would have been collected in this town, is the consequence
of that appeal ~~to~~ Upon the question of hypocrisy I will
commence with definitions. it is insincerity, unfairness
in statements. That they were insincere is xxxxyyy

At this point, I have taken up the Liberator
and have met a sentence which may be regarded
as a "wonderful coincidence," in this connection

True, Mr. Garrison and the Massachusetts So-
ciety are none the less guilty, because others are
guilty too; but this fact may be a reason why
they should not be singled out as the only sin-
ners in the world, at least by accusers guilty of
the same things, in kind, if not in degree. Nev-
ertheless, this is quite tolerable, compared with
the unfairness of holding them responsible, both
for their own sins and other people's too. On
this point, one would almost think, when looking
at the facts in the case, that the community had
adopted the opinion of a certain notable one of
old, 'that it is expedient that one die for the peo-
ple,' and so had concluded to gather up, in one
immense mass, the sins, real and imaginary, of
the whole brotherhood of agents, societies, writ-
ters, speakers, &c., and hurl them, in one mighty
avalanche of ruin, upon the head of Garrison and
that abominable Massachusetts A. S. Society!
What are some of the facts?

And if they have ~~been~~ is unfairness to
destroy W.G.'s influence then indeed they were ungrateful
Hypocrites, and as members of the Society, ought to
receive a pointed and solemn rebuke. If the
society cannot "afford," the moral force to reprove
such defection. Its dissolution ought to take place
by common consent. — From the commencement
of this controversy I have been satisfied that the
Philistines were upon us and every movement since
proves that they are,

If they say 'Yea, Protest,' and rest your fame on that
day's business. It is your privilege, but let there be
no management to deprive the Soc of a certain right

On certain points of your exceptions to the Report
In your conversation after the adjournment you
objected more particularly to the exhibition of certain
persons in the character of Traitors and Hypocrites, You
deny the truth of the character given, ~~rather~~

To me the names appear
to be the only correct ones to express the truth in relation
to them. Now a Traitor is one that abandons any cause
or its measures after he has given his voluntary consent,
to the cause and measures, or by any overt act gives the
Enemy "aid and comfort," In this respect they are
manifestly traitors, for their Appeal and Appeals
have been rolled like a "sweet morsel under the tongue,"
and has had the tendency to comfort the enemies of abolition,

And what let me ask has been the effects upon the friends
of the holy cause, I'll tell you, many have "wept in
secret places," and many more have been disheartened
~~with them~~ in view of the ^{unnecessary} ~~unnecessary~~ controversy
that it has engendered. To me it has been particularly
unpleasant for I have felt ^{and seen} the baneful effects of

Roxbury } Rev A A Phelps John Jones, Roxbury Feb 1838.
Dear Sir, If I had seen
the murder of a man in the house of
his friends, it would not have shocked me more
than I was at the closing scene of the Annual meeting
of the M. H. S. S., and as you were an actor in
that ~~scene~~ part that was so particularly distressing
I take the liberty of addressing this letter to you
hoping that you will read it without distrust, and receive
it as from a Brother, jealous, for the cause of Abolition.

Being totally unacquainted with parliamentary usage
with reference to deliberative bodies, I cannot decide but
that the disposition made of the Annual Report was
altogether proper. However in my judgement it was
wrong, and in violation of a distinctive element of
Democracy. The Soc. have committed the preparation
of the Report to their Cov. Sec, it comes to the Soc, for
final action, and any measure of reference or otherwise
having a tendency to deprive the members of the right
of the finishing Yea or Nay - Is wrong in principle
My hope is that you will acknowledge the correctness of
this principle, and use your influence with the Board
to refer the Report unaltered and unmutated again to
the Soc, that it may be properly disposed of. If they
reject it with a Nay, superb and unanimous, or with
a bare majority I'll say Amen